



2016
KITCHEN
OF THE
YEAR

The Kitchen of Our Dreams

EVERY YEAR, WE COOK UP THE ULTIMATE SHOWCASE OF CULINARY GAME-CHANGERS AND DAZZLING DECOR TRENDS. THIS TIME, ATLANTA DESIGNER MATTHEW QUINN COMBINED EFFICIENCY WITH ELEGANCE, TOTALLY REDEFINING WHAT A HOME KITCHEN CAN BE—AT LEAST UNTIL NEXT YEAR

The 60-inch THERMADOR range includes a warming drawer and a double griddle.

Interior Design MATTHEW QUINN Interview KATHLEEN RENDA
Photography TREVOR TONDRO Producer SAMANTHA EMMERLING



Machine-washable linen shades by THIBAUT are "kitchen-practical," Quinn says.

A Lewis chandelier and Leyden sconces from Hudson Valley Lighting brighten an Atlanta kitchen designed by Matthew Quinn. The banquette—covered in Interlude from Thibaut's Portico collection of Sunbrella fabrics—offers cozy seating around a Grothouse walnut table with metallized banding. The Mesa Ikat pillows and linen Roman shades are also by Thibaut. Loom glass tiles by AKDO. Counters in honed Calacatta Nuvo by Caesarstone. Ceiling paint, Oval Room Blue by Farrow & Ball. Chairs by Kate Spade New York. Cabinetry by Downsview Kitchens. **OPPOSITE:** Pro Grand Steam range by Thermador. Custom Mont Blanc hood from François & Co.'s Matthew Quinn Collection.

STYLIST SEAN MCGOWAN



For the wet bar, Quinn covered the wall in gold-striped Calacatta marble tiles by AKDO, arranged in a sunburst pattern around the window. The cabinets, by Downview Kitchens, match the color of the pantry tiles; the mixed-metal hardware was designed by Quinn. The Grohe Blue Chilled and Sparkling faucet dispenses still, slightly sparkling, or fully sparkling water. Floating shelves in a metal finish by Grothouse.

The white oak GROTHOUSE counter gleams with a gilded-metal—and waterproof!—finish.

Could this kitchen be any sexier?

MATTHEW QUINN: It's definitely not a traditional white one! The homeowner, Elizabeth Garvish, loves glamour and the color teal. I wanted the space to reflect her style, so I brought in flirty blues and luxe details, like the island banquette and the crystal chandelier. Kitchens with outsize personality—lots of customization and bold hues—are trending right now, especially in new-construction homes like this.

KATHLEEN RENDA: Is that what makes it our Kitchen of the Year?

Yes, but the design is just half the story. This space is filled with innovations! It's the first home in the country to have a 60-inch Thermador Pro Grand Steam range, with a combination steam-and-convection oven that can cook a Thanksgiving turkey in 90 minutes. There's also a hands-free Grohe K7 faucet with a foot-activated motion sensor and two superfast Thermador Star-Sapphire dishwashers that can run a wash cycle in 20 minutes. I found all three—and most of the other products—at the Ferguson Bath, Kitchen & Lighting Gallery showroom, my go-to source here in Atlanta.

Are you always chasing the latest technology and kitchen gadgets?

These innovations actually make meal prep and cleanup faster and easier. One of my goals for this kitchen was to save Elizabeth 10 minutes a day. In a year, that's about 60 extra hours—a huge help for a busy lawyer with one-year-old twin boys!

There's still plenty of glitz, though.

Function came first, but it wasn't the only priority. The big walk-in pantry is a great example of the way this kitchen balances sophistication and performance. It's loaded with storage—but it's also a total wow moment. The mulioned glass doors open into a jewel box of a space lined with lagoon-blue AKDO glass tiles. Even the ceiling received the glam treatment, with Thibaut's Windward Sisal wallpaper. Completely over the top, but worth it, because Elizabeth will be in and out of there constantly.

The island with the built-in banquette is another showstopper. What inspired it?

The original sketches called for a traditional rectangular island and counter

stools, but the design felt too clunky—as if we were placing a barrier between the kitchen and the great room on the opposite side. I also realized that it would be years before Elizabeth's young boys could sit comfortably on stools. Then it hit me: Kids love booths! The stain-resistant Sunbrella upholstery from Thibaut really lets them get comfortable. Curving the island also made it friendlier: The banquette seems to reach out from the kitchen to the great room to say, "We're just one big, happy room."

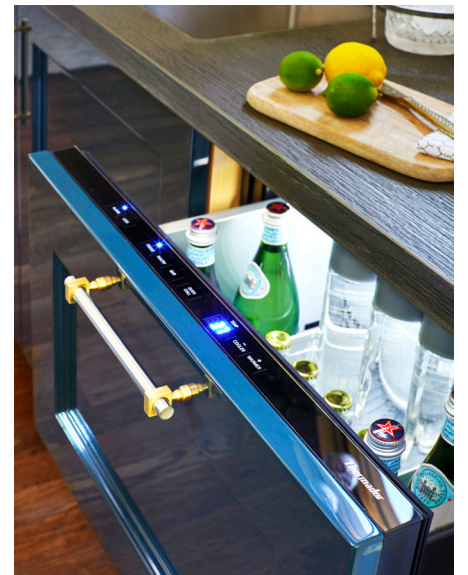
That Thermador range is five feet wide! Why doesn't it overwhelm the room?

I complemented it with other equally strong design elements. It's flanked by a pair of windows, each topped with a Leyden sconce from Hudson Valley Lighting. Together, the sconces and shades add softness. Another tactic was painting the ceiling insets in Farrow & Ball's Oval Room Blue: The high-gloss finish and eye-catching color make the room feel taller. Then I added a brass-and-pewter hood, which I designed for François & Co. It's sculptural, with graceful lines that offset the visual heft of the range.

Any worries that such a distinctive kitchen could impact resale value?

Not really, because this is Elizabeth's forever home. The challenge was intuiting what her life will be like in the future. Because I wanted the kitchen to be able to evolve, I chose details that can be easily altered. For instance, she can have the ceiling repainted without much fuss, or reupholster the banquette. It was important to think along these lines, because this is where she'll raise her sons to adulthood. And I don't just mean under this roof. Everything will take place in this very room, because her kitchen isn't simply the heart of her home. For Elizabeth, it is her home.

RIGHT, FROM TOP: The molecular-inspired Element fixture by Corbett Lighting and Thibaut's metallic cork-print wallpaper add dazzle to the wet bar: "I love a kitchen with a special—and surprising—ceiling," Quinn says. The built-in Thermador coffee station brews coffee and espresso, with a steam wand that froths milk for cappuccinos and lattes; a drawer below stocks coffee, sugar, mugs, and spoons. Thanks to a quick-chill feature, Thermador's under-counter refrigerator drawers lower the temperature of beverages to an optimal 33 degrees—a boon when the homeowner throws a party.





The touchless GROHE faucet can be used conventionally or activated by a foot-controlled motion sensor.



AKDO tiles, in a mix of matte and glossy finishes, create an energetic two-tone effect.



CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE:

Next to the mudroom, a bathroom has a utilitarian Oak Hill DXV console sink, which Quinn notes is both elegant and durable. The shower and toilet are hidden behind curtains in Cabana Cloth from Thibaut's Portico collection of Sunbrella fabrics. Suspending a mirror in front of the window allows for privacy.

Since the pantry is visible from the home's entry, Quinn fancied it up with glass doors and Chevron glass tiles from AKDO. Hudson Valley Lighting's Middlebury fixture and Thibaut's Windward Sisal grass cloth add interest to the ceiling. Steel shelves by the Container Store. The tableware is by Ballard Designs.

A niche in the kitchen island keeps paper towels close at hand. Also built in: a collapsible step stool to help the twins reach the countertop.

Fold-down rumble seats in classic cars inspired Quinn to create the banquette's secret compartment, which opens to reveal a charging station and a pocket for electronics.

Thermador's Freedom freezer and refrigerator are behind panels painted in Farrow & Ball's Dove Tale. Also camouflaged: a pair of Thermador Star-Sapphire dishwashers flanking the island's stainless steel Hillside sink from DXV. K7 Foot Control faucet by Grohe from Ferguson Bath, Kitchen & Lighting Gallery.





The great room, as seen from the kitchen side, has a Napoleon gas fireplace with a mantel designed by Quinn in polished Calacatta Nuvo Caesarstone, the same material used in a honed finish on the kitchen counters. The seating area fits a crowd comfortably with a pair of eight-foot-long Macalester sofas and two cowhide-covered Lind ottomans, along with a cocktail table, console, and tripod lamp, all from Room & Board. Westside chairs from Duralee. Curtains in Pinstripe Sheer linen by Thibaut. Paint, Farrow & Ball's Cornforth White. Curtain rods and side tables from Ballard Designs. Carpet by Rosecore.

Transparent side tables from **BALLARD DESIGNS** create an uncluttered look.

RIGHT: For homeowner Elizabeth Garvish, with her twins Alexander and Christian, the kitchen's palette is "right up my alley. I love the pops of color—these little surprises—like when I open the pantry door." **BELOW:** Napoleon's gas-powered Galaxy outdoor fireplace warms the loggia off the great room on crisp autumn evenings. The Ballard Designs planters are modeled on olive-oil jars. Salona ottoman from Woodard.



TOP: The mudroom's freestanding Ballard Designs beadboard cabinet includes hooks and drawers for stashing outdoor gear; Akoya Pearl grass cloth by Thibaut. **ABOVE:** Designer Matthew Quinn. His new book, *Quintessential Kitchens* (Parrish Press), features some of his favorites among the kitchens he's designed over the past 22 years.



The **HAIKU LUXE** smart fan self-adjusts its speed depending on heat and humidity levels.

The loggia is anchored by Woodard's durable faux-wicker Bay Shore seating, upholstered in Sailcloth Salt by Sunbrella. Ballard Designs' Bornova cocktail and side tables, carved from mango wood, add an exotic touch. The Room & Board Tyne end tables are topped with gray quartz. All-weather rug, Stanton. Great room and loggia design by Sherry Hart. Home built by Ladisic Fine Homes. FOR MORE DETAILS, SEE RESOURCES